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(b) You are exempt from the requirements to obtain SBA's prior approval for:

(1) A decrease in your Regulatory Capital of more than two percent under § 107.585 (but not below the minimum required under the Act or these regulations). You must report the reduction to SBA within 30 days.

(2) Disposition of any asset to your Associate under § 107.885.

(3) A contract to employ an Investment Adviser/Manager under § 107.510. However, you must notify SBA of the Management Expenses to be incurred under such contract, or of any subsequent material changes in such Management Expenses, within 30 days of execution. In order to become eligible for Leverage, you must have the contract approved by SBA.

(4) Your initial Management Expenses under § 107.140 and increases in your Management Expenses under § 107.520. However, you must have your Management Expenses approved by SBA in order to become eligible for Leverage.

(5) Options obtained from a Small Business by your management or employees under § 107.815(b).

(c) You are exempt from the requirement in § 107.680 to obtain SBA's post approval of new directors and new officers, other than your chief operating officer. However, you must notify SBA of the new directors or officers within 30 days, and you must have all directors and officers approved by SBA in order to become eligible for Leverage.

Subpart I—SBA Financial Assistance for Licensees (Leverage)

GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT OBTAINING LEVERAGE

§ 107.1100. Types of Leverage and application procedures.

(a) *Types of Leverageable available.* You may apply for Leverage from SBA in one or both of the following forms:

(1) The purchase or guarantee of your Debentures.

(2) The purchase or guarantee of your Participating Securities.

(b) *Applying for Leverage.* The Leverage application process has two parts.

You must first apply for SBA's conditional commitment to reserve a specific amount of Leverage for your future use. You may then apply to draw down Leverage against the commitment. See §§ 107.1200 through 107.1240.

(c) *Where to send your application.* Send all Leverage applications to SBA, Investment Division, 409 Third Street, S.W., Washington, DC 20416.

[63 FR 5868, Feb. 5, 1998, as amended at 64 FR 70996, Dec. 20, 1999]

§ 107.1120. General eligibility requirements for Leverage.

To be eligible for Leverage, you must:

(a) Demonstrate a need for Leverage, evidenced by your investment activity and a lack of sufficient funds for investment. For your first issuance of Leverage, if you have invested at least 50 percent of your Leverageable Capital, you are presumed to lack sufficient funds for investment.

(b) Have adequate Private Capital to satisfy the requirements for financial viability under § 107.200.

(c) Meet the minimum capital requirements of § 107.210, subject to the following additional conditions:

(1) If you were licensed after September 30, 1996 under the exception in § 107.210(a)(1), you will not be eligible for Leverage until you have Regulatory Capital of at least \$5,000,000.

(2) If you were licensed on or before September 30, 1996, and have Regulatory Capital of less than \$5,000,000 (less than \$10,000,000 if you wish to issue Participating Securities):

(i) You must certify in writing that at least 50 percent of the aggregate dollar amount of your Financings extended after September 30, 1996 will be provided to Smaller Enterprises (as defined in § 107.710(a)); and

(ii) You must demonstrate to SBA's satisfaction that the approval of Leverage will not create or contribute to an unreasonable risk of default or loss to the United States government, based on such measurements of profitability and financial viability as SBA deems appropriate.

(d) Certify, if applicable, that you will satisfy the requirement in § 107.710(d) to provide Financing to Smaller Enterprises.

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(e) Certify in writing that you are in compliance with the requirement to finance Smaller Enterprises in § 107.710(b).

(f) Show, to the satisfaction of SBA, that your management is qualified and has the knowledge, experience, and capability necessary for investing in the types of businesses contemplated by the Act, the regulations in this part and your business plan.

(g) Be in compliance with the regulations in this part.

(h) If required by SBA, have your Control Person(s) assume, in writing, personal responsibility for your Leverage, effective only if such Control Person(s) participate (directly or indirectly) in a transfer of Control not approved by SBA.

[61 FR 3189, Jan. 31, 1996, as amended at 63 FR 5868, Feb. 5, 1998; 64 FR 70996, Dec. 20, 1999]

§ 107.1130 Leverage fees and additional charges payable by Licensee.

(a) *Leverage fee.* You must pay a leverage fee to SBA for each issuance of a Debenture or Participating Security. The fee is 3 percent of the face amount of the Leverage issued.

(b) *Payment of leverage fee.* (1) If you issue a Debenture or Participating Security to repay or redeem existing Leverage, you must pay the leverage fee before SBA will guarantee or purchase the new Leverage security.

(2) If you issue a Debenture or Participating Security that is not used to repay or redeem existing Leverage, SBA will deduct the leverage fee from the proceeds remitted to you, unless you prepaid the fee under § 107.1210.

(c) *Refundability.* The leverage fee is not refundable under any circumstances.

(d) *Additional charge for Leverage.*—(1) *Debentures.* You must pay to SBA a Charge of 1 percent per annum on the outstanding amount of your Debentures issued on or after October 1, 1996, payable under the same terms and conditions as the interest on the Debentures. This Charge does not apply to Debentures issued pursuant to a Leverage commitment obtained from SBA on or before September 30, 1996.

(2) *Participating Securities.* You must pay to SBA a Charge of 1 percent per

annum on the outstanding amount of your Participating Securities issued on or after October 1, 1996, payable under the same terms and conditions as the Prioritized Payments on the Participating Securities. This Charge does not apply to Participating Securities issued pursuant to a Leverage commitment obtained from SBA on or before September 30, 1996.

(e) *Other Leverage fees.* SBA may establish a fee structure for services performed by the CRA. SBA will not collect any fee for its guarantee of TCs.

[61 FR 3189, Jan. 31, 1996, as amended at 63 FR 5868, Feb. 5, 1998]

§ 107.1140 Licensee's acceptance of SBA remedies under §§ 107.1800 through 107.1820.

If you issue Leverage after April 25, 1994, you automatically agree to the terms and conditions in §§ 107.1800 through 107.1820 as they exist at the time of issuance. The effect of these terms and conditions is the same as if they were fully incorporated in the terms of your Leverage.

MAXIMUM AMOUNT OF LEVERAGE FOR WHICH A LICENSEE IS ELIGIBLE

§ 107.1150 Maximum amount of Leverage for a Section 301(c) Licensee.

(a) *Maximum amount of Leverage*—(1) *Amounts before indexing.* If you are a Section 301(c) Licensee, the following table shows the maximum amount of Leverage you may have outstanding at any time, subject to the indexing adjustment set forth in paragraph (a)(2) of this section:

If your leverageable capital is:	Then your maximum leverage is:
(1) Not over \$17,500,000	300 percent of Leverageable Capital
(2) Over \$17,500,000 but not over \$35,100,000.	\$52,500,000 + [2 × (Leverageable Capital – \$17,500,000)]
(3) Over \$35,100,000 but not over \$52,600,000.	\$87,700,000 + (Leverageable Capital – \$35,100,000)
(4) Over \$52,600,000	\$105,200,000

(2) *Indexing of maximum amount of Leverage.* SBA will adjust the amounts in paragraph (a) of this section annually to reflect increases through September in the Consumer Price Index published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. SBA